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## In the claims

- (original) A method comprising:
  determining a spitting recovery level of a fluid-ejection mechanism; and,
  determining a humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism based at least on the spitting
  recovery level.
- 2. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism, wherein determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism is further based on the temperature.
- 3. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein determining the temperature of the fluidejection mechanism comprises measuring an operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 4. (original) The method of claim 2, wherein determining the temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises utilizing a thermistor within the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 5. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the spitting recovery level of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises:

waiting for a threshold length of time during which the fluid-ejection mechanism has remained idle;

attempting to eject fluid drops until fluid drop ejection has been detected; and, correlating the spitting recovery level as a number of the fluid drops attempted to be ejected until the fluid drop ejection has been detected.

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- 6. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein waiting for the threshold length of time during which the fluid-ejection mechanism has remained idle comprises waiting for the threshold length of time during which the fluid-ejection mechanism has remained idle out of cap.
- 7. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein attempting to eject the fluid drops until the fluid drop ejection has been detected comprises utilizing a fluid drop detector.
- 8. (original) The method of claim 5, wherein determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises correlating the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism as proportional to the number of the fluid drops attempted to be ejected until the fluid drop ejection has been detected.
- 9. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises determining an approximate operating humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 10. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises interpolating the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the spitting recovery level.
- 11. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprising determining the humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism as one of a plurality of humidity ranges based on the spitting recovery level.
- 12. (original) The method of claim 1, further comprising adjusting at least servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the determined humidity.

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- 13. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein adjusting at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises adjusting an interval at which the fluid-ejection mechanism is to be serviced based on the determined humidity.
- 14. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein adjusting at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises adjusting a type of servicing for the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the determined humidity.
- 15. (original) The method of claim 12, wherein adjusting at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises additionally adjusting operating characteristics of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the determined humidity.
- 16. (original) The method of claim 12, further initially comprising waiting for a threshold length of time since at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism have been adjusted based on the determined humidity.
- 17. (original) The method of claim 12, further initially comprising receiving user instruction to adjust at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism have been adjusted based on the determined humidity.
- 18. (original) The method of claim 12, further comprising storing at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism as have been adjusted to firmware associated with the fluid-ejection mechanism.

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- 19. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism is an inkjet-printing mechanism.
- 20. (original) A fluid-ejection device comprising:
  - a fluid-ejection mechanism to eject fluid drops;
- a fluid drop detector to determine a spitting recovery level of the fluid-ejection mechanism;
- a temperature sensor to sense an operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism; and,
- a controller to adjust at least servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the spitting recovery level and the operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism,

wherein the spitting recovery level is dependent at least on humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism.

- 21. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 20, wherein the fluid drop detector comprises one of an electrostatic fluid drop detector and an optical fluid drop detector.
- 22. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 20, wherein the controller is to adjust at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism by selecting one of a plurality of values for at least the servicing requirements based on the operating temperature and the spitting recovery level of the fluid-ejection mechanism
- 23. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 20, further comprising firmware in which at least the servicing requirements for the fluid-ejection mechanism are stored.

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- 24. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 20, wherein the temperature sensor is a thermistor.
- 25. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 20, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism is an inkjet-printing mechanism, and the fluid-ejection device is an inkjet-printing device.
- 26. (original) A fluid-ejection device comprising:
  - a fluid-ejection mechanism to eject fluid drops;
- a fluid drop detector to indicate a successful attempt by the fluid-ejection mechanism to eject the fluid drops; and,

means for approximating an operating humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on an operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism and a number of unsuccessful attempts by the fluid-ejection mechanism to eject the fluid drops before the successful attempt by the fluid-ejection mechanism to eject the fluid drops.

- 27. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 26, wherein the means is further for adjusting at least servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the operating humidity and the operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 28. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 26, further comprising a temperature-sensing mechanism to sense the operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 29. (original) The fluid-ejection device of claim 26, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism is an inkjet-printing mechanism, and the fluid-ejection device is an inkjet-printing device.

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30. (original) A computer-readable medium having firmware stored thereon associated with a fluid-ejection mechanism to perform a method comprising:

attempting to eject fluid drops until fluid drop ejection has been detected;

counting a number of the fluid drops attempted to be ejected until the fluid drop ejection has been detected;

measuring an operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism;

determining an approximate operating humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the number of the fluid drops counted and the operating temperature measured; and,

adjusting at least one of operating characteristics and servicing requirements of the fluidejection mechanism based on the approximate operating humidity and the operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.

- 31. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, the method further initially comprising waiting for a threshold length of time during which the fluid-ejection mechanism has remained idle.
- 32. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, the method further initially comprising waiting for a threshold length of time since the at least one of the operating characteristics and the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism have been adjusted based on the approximate operating humidity and the operating temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 33. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, the method further comprising storing the at least one of the operating characteristics and the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism as have been adjusted.

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- 34. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 30, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism and the firmware are part of a fluid-ejection device.
- 35. (original) The computer-readable medium of claim 34, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism is an inkjet-printing mechanism and the fluid-ejection device is an inkjet-printing device.
- 36. (currently amended) A method comprising: determining a spitting recovery level of a fluid-ejection mechanism using a fluid drop detector; and,

adjusting at least servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism based on the spitting recovery level of the fluid-ejection mechanism,

wherein the spitting recovery level is related to a humidity of the fluid-ejection mechanism.

- 37. (original) The method of claim 36, further comprising determining a temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism, wherein adjusting at least the servicing requirements of the fluid-ejection mechanism is further based on the temperature of the fluid-ejection mechanism.
- 38. (original) The method of claim 36, wherein determining the spitting recovery level of the fluid-ejection mechanism comprises:

waiting for a threshold length of time during which the fluid-ejection mechanism has remained idle;

attempting to eject fluid drops until fluid drop ejection has been detected; and, correlating the spitting recovery level as a number of the fluid drops attempted to be ejected until the fluid drop ejection has been detected.

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39. (original) The method of claim 36, wherein the fluid-ejection mechanism is an inkjet printing mechanism.